

CPYRGHT

T H E   P E R I S C O P EFolk Tales of the CIA

Who got blamed when the Japanese translation of protest singer Joan Baez's recent TV performance in Tokyo came through garbled? The CIA, that's who. Miss Baez told her audience in English that any profits from her concerts would go to Nagasaki A-bomb victims. The translator merely mentioned that the performance was being televised. When she explained why she opposes paying income taxes to support the war in Vietnam, the translator only observed that U.S. taxes are high. Later, when interpreter Ichiro Takasaki was asked to explain what appeared to be a thoroughly unprofessional job, he said that he was under orders from the CIA to soften Miss Baez's political statements. U.S. officials say it isn't so. But Takasaki is sticking to his story.